



CONCORDIA NEWS

A free publication of the Concordia Neighborhood Association

March 2023

Erin Go Bragh!

T.C. O'Leary's in Concordia hosts a slew of St. Patrick's Week events in March.



Story on page 8.

CNA Mission Statement

To connect Concordia residents and businesses—inform, educate and report on activities, issues and opportunities of the neighborhood.

Concordia News

This free, monthly publication of CNA will abstain from publishing anything that could be construed as libel.

Copies are delivered to all residences and many community and business locations in the Concordia neighborhood.

Concordia News is printed on 40% post-consumer or better paper, manufactured at a local mill.

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New Seasons

Grocery store workers join union

By Leigh Shelton

CNews Advertising Representative

Since he was a child, Joseph Mohrmann has survived off discarded food from New Seasons.

"It was essentially 'Blue Slips,'" Mohrmann said, using the store term for edible-but-unsellable food up for grabs for employees. What employees don't take is donated to community groups.

"We went to a church that got food donations from New Seasons," Mohrmann said. "I remember packing paper bags for others in need, but it was for us, too. We needed them too."

Now, at age 24, a five-year grocery clerk at New Seasons Concordia, 5320 NE 33rd Ave, Mohrmann still relies on the discarded food to get by. At \$18.80 an hour, after rent and bills are paid, he said he has about \$200 left to spend on food and anything else he may need or want in the two weeks before he gets paid again.

"I'm very frugal," Mohrmann said, who shares an apartment in Cully with his sister. "We don't heat the apartment much. I shop at thrift stores."

For about a year, Mohrmann and his co-workers have been meeting after hours to figure out what they can do to improve conditions in their workplace. In December, they filed for a union election and voted 94–16 in favor of joining the New Seasons Labor Union, a new independent union the workers formed themselves in 2022. Seven other Portland-area New Seasons stores have voted to join them, totaling 800 newly unionized workers.

"It took a lot of energy and time to cultivate our working-class solidarity," said Raël Adkerson, a seven-year New Seasons employee and Concordia resi-



Leigh Shelton is the ad rep for Concordia News. She loves getting to know her Concordia neighbors and exploring ways we can better support each other. Reach

out and say hi at CNewsBusiness@ConcordiaPDX.org.



From left: New Seasons Concordia workers Ollie, Ava and Joseph pose in front of a New Seasons Labor Union banner. Neighborhood store workers voted 94–16 in favor of joining the newly-formed union in December of last year.

dent. "In a time when people are very polarized, we have to get back to understanding that our labor is something that brings us all together."

Adkerson said the progressive language the company touts no longer matches his day-to-day experience.

"The things this company was built on, we want to see some of that back," Adkerson said.

Negotiations are underway for the workers' first contract.

Progressive label

New Seasons is a 19-store grocery chain founded here in Portland in 1999. In 2009, New Seasons' founding members sold off a majority stake of the company to Endeavour Capital, a private equity firm. In 2019, Endeavour sold New Seasons, along with a suite of similar

West Coast grocers, to E-mart Inc, South Korea's largest retailer.

New Seasons markets heavily its Certified B Corporation label. Awarded by global nonprofit B-Lab to achieve the "B Corp" label, a for-profit business is supposed to meet certain criteria in areas of sustainability, worker standards, and accounting transparency. When New Seasons first won the award in 2013, it did so with a score of 120 points. In its most recent survey, its points slipped to 80, the minimum required to hold the label.

In an email, a New Seasons spokesperson said, "From the time our company was founded in 1999, we have been rooted in taking care of our staff first and foremost, and B Corp certification is a recognition of the great work we've done. We're proud of our legacy as a progressive employer that offers industry-leading wages, a 30 percent discount, and generous benefits, including paid parental leave, paid time off, paid adoption benefits, 401K matching, twice-a-year automatic wage increases and so much more."

Informing customers

On a rainy Saturday afternoon in early February, New Seasons employee Dan Morrissey gathered with co-workers at the edge of the parking lot and approached customers as they came and went from the store. It was the first time the workers brought their struggle to customers' attention.

"Once people understand that we work here, and just want to talk to them about what's going on in the store, they're incredibly supportive," Morrissey said.

Morrissey said he joined the union hoping for better pay, but most impor-



Concordia resident and New Seasons shopper Elise Gauthier talks to New Seasons clerk Joseph Mohrmann outside the store on Saturday, Feb. 4.

Story continued on Page 5

From the Board

By Kieran Lee, CNA Chair



Association welcomes input from residents

Hello again fellow Concordians! Whether you're prepping your garden for spring, making trips to the snowy mountains or staying cozy at home waiting for longer days, I hope this edition of Concordia News finds you well.

As we begin to emerge from our darkest Portland winter months, the neighborhood is certainly buzzing with upcoming events. Our volunteers are putting together quite the setlist of opportunities to get to know your neighbors better, so keep up with each month's publication to stay on top of what's going on in Concordia.

I've started to hear from a few of you via email since our last publication (thank you!). I would like to continue emphasizing that no comment or concern is too small, and our CNA Board is here to listen.

All board meetings and committee meetings are open to the public, and attendance from the neighborhood is highly encouraged. We are here representing Concordia; you can help us relay your priorities by attending a committee meeting in person or virtually. If a certain committee sparks your interest, join

and become a member! We are only as good as our connection to the neighborhood.

2023 budget

To my knowledge, the Concordia Neighborhood Association has not published a calendar year budget in recent history. During the February Board meeting, the board voted on and approved a 2023 budget.

Why does this matter? Well, this allows us to better forecast spending for our neighborhood events and enables our Social Committee to plan ahead and secure resources.

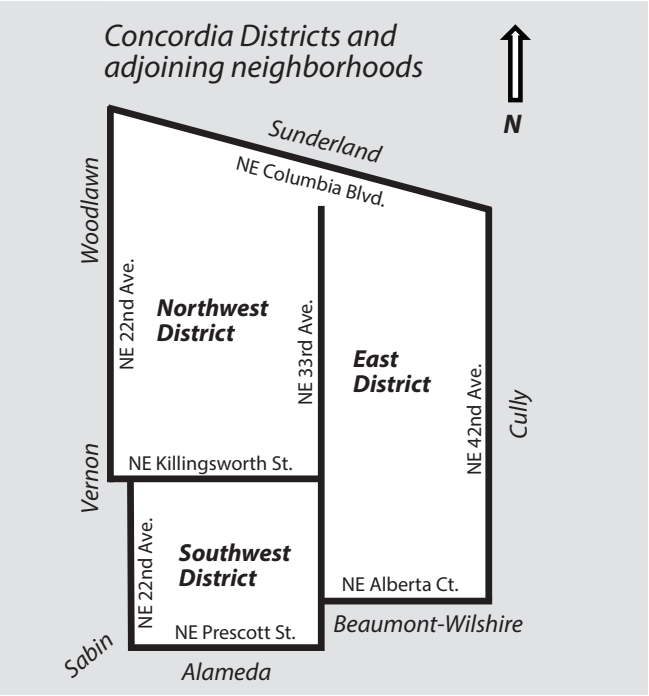
With the past few years being a little less predictable, 2023 is an appropriate time to

solidify standard yearly activities and also welcome in a few new ones, so stay tuned.

See you around the neighborhood and don't forget to say hello!

Kieran Lee works as an automotive engineer and has volunteered in youth development. He particularly enjoys living in Concordia for a variety of reasons, including its diversity, accessibility, and local business community.

I would like to continue emphasizing that no comment or concern is too small, and our CNA Board is here to listen.



CNA Board of Directors

Chair | Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org Kieran Lee
East 1 | East1@ConcordiaPDX.org Heather Pashley
East 2 | East2@ConcordiaPDX.org Astrid Furstner
Northwest 1 | NW1@ConcordiaPDX.org Isham "Ike" Harris
Northwest 2 | NW2@ConcordiaPDX.org Matt Roberts
Southwest 1 | SW1@ConcordiaPDX.org Javier Puga-Phillips
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At Large 3 | AL3@ConcordiaPDX.org John McSherry
At Large 4 | AL4@ConcordiaPDX.org Rich Burton
At Large 5 | AL5@ConcordiaPDX.org Michelle Fitzgerald
At Large 6 | AL6@ConcordiaPDX.org Brittany van der Salm

CNA meeting venues, how to attend

To learn how to attend CNA meetings in-person (when available) or remotely, visit:

- ConcordiaPDX.org/CNAMeetings
- Facebook.com/groups/ConcordiaPDX

Concordia Neighborhood Association

Board Meeting

1st Wednesday of the month, Wednesday, March 1, 6 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room with call in option, see box below, contact Kieran Lee, Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, March 1, 7 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room with call in option, see box below, contact Kieran Lee, Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org

Social Committee

If you'd like to volunteer to help plan fun, community-building events, contact Javier Puga-Phillips at Social@ConcordiaPDX.org.

Media Team

Last Monday of the month, Monday, March 27, 6 p.m., venue: remote, see box below, contact Shawn Mihalik, MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org

Land Use & Transportation Committee

For information about upcoming meetings, contact Rich Burton at LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org.

Finance Committee

Last Wednesday of the month, Wednesday, March 29, 7 p.m., venue: contact Heather Pashley, Treasurer@ConcordiaPDX.org

Community Room Rental

For info and scheduling, visit ConcordiaPDX.org/community-room-rental or contact Javier Puga-Phillips at CNARoomKennedy@gmail.com.

CONTACTS

CNA Chair

Kieran Lee, Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org

CNA Vice Chair

Brittany van der Salm, AL6@ConcordiaPDX.org

CNA Secretary

Matt Roberts, NW2@ConcordiaPDX.org

CNA Treasurer

Heather Pashley, Treasurer@ConcordiaPDX.org

North Community Safety Team

Jacob Brostoff & Daniel Franco-Nunez, north.pdxteam@PortlandOregon.gov, 503.823.4064

SUBMISSIONS & ADVERTISING

Submissions to Concordia News: Deadline is the 10th of the month preceding the upcoming monthly publication. Contact CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org
Submissions to CNA website: Submit nonprofit news & events to MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org
Advertising: Leigh Shelton, CNewsBusiness@ConcordiaPDX.org, 503.875.8410

MEDIA TEAM

CNA Board Liaison: John McSherry
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CNews Editor: Rob Cullivan, CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org
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Concordia Neighborhood Litter Pickup

Care about your neighborhood? Want to help?

What: Join SOLVE and your neighbors for a litter pick up in the Concordia Neighborhood.

When: Saturday, March 4, 9:00 a.m. – noon

Where: Meet in Alberta Park, NE Ainsworth & 22nd

Registration: Pre-registration is required! Please sign up ahead of time and fill out the volunteer waiver form:

SOLVEoregon.org/opportunity/a0C8W00000VBJE8UAP

Questions? Contact Javier Puga-Phillips at Social@ConcordiaPDX.org or call 323.573.1516.

More info: ConcordiaPDX.org/NeighborhoodLitterPickUp



Community meeting



Pastor Philip Brandt of St. Michael’s Lutheran Church discusses a possible community center in Concordia with other residents, on Feb. 13. Photo by Rob Cullivan

Group discusses potential NE center

By Rob Cullivan
CNews Editor

A group of Concordia residents discussed working to create a community center, at a Feb. 13 meeting at St. Michael’s Lutheran Church, 6700 NE 29th Ave.

Hosted by Pastor Ike Harris, a Concordia Neighborhood Association board member, the group of nine folks engaged in a wide-ranging discussion with Portland Public School District and Family Liaison Jeff Wiser about possible uses for a plot of land on Northeast 42nd Avenue, next to Fernhill Park, where both John Adams High School, then Whitaker Middle School, once stood.

Wiser stressed he attended the meeting in an informal capacity to help attendees discuss their concerns and was not formally representing the school district.

Questions to be answered include how a possible center would fit in with the school district’s proposed use for it as an athletic hub. In 2021, the district issued its Long Range Facility Plan and designated the Whitaker-Adams site, as it’s called, a potential site for athletic facilities for area schools.

Harris noted his vision for a center could include services for both area seniors and youngsters. He added that he would like to work with Clarence

Larkins, a longtime Cully activist, who has also proposed building a community center on the site. Larkins’ proposal for P.O. Black Family Village, a multi-use center, was detailed in the February 2023 edition of CNews, and the story can be accessed at ConcordiaPDX.org/Feb2023/.

Larkins was unable to attend the meeting.

“I feel if we join forces ... it could be a perfect fit,” Harris said of Larkins’ vision.

Ideas discussed at the Feb. 13 meeting included surveying area residents and civic groups in the various neighborhoods around the site about what they would like to see happen. Wiser noted that if the attendees create a formal proposal, interested residents could schedule a time to speak before the Portland school board, both at a public meeting as well as in one specifically set up to discuss their concerns.

On a related note, the Concordia Neighborhood Association is currently drafting a letter on behalf of itself and other area organizations to discuss the future of the site. CNews plans on covering the progress of the letter, as well as other efforts related to a possible community center, in an upcoming issue.

The group plans to hold another public meeting at St. Michael’s at 5:30 p.m., Monday, March 13.

Concordia resident hosts walking group

By Michelle Fitzgerald
Contributing writer

Every Monday through Friday, join our volunteer host at 11 a.m. in the covered area at Alberta Park, to walk our neighborhood and get to know each other.

There is no set route, and walkers, runners, well-behaved dogs and baby strollers all are welcome.

If you want to volunteer as a host, please reach out to me at 503-901-8932 and I can share the details. Or join the Facebook group, Concordia Walkers.



Fundraiser set for Bosnia documentary

Concordia residents Daniela Repas (Director), Jessica Daugherty (Producer), and Lillon Anderson (Donations Coordinator) are organizing efforts to raise funds for the animated feature documentary, “Pour the Water as I Leave,” currently in production in Portland.

“Pour the Water as I Leave” is a 90-minute animated, narrative/documentary hybrid film about what happened to Bosnians during the Balkans conflict 25 years ago and how those events relate to refugees today.

An exhibition titled “Installation, Vol I: Film in Progress” will be open from March 3-31, at 1715 SE Third Ave. Gallery hours are noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday in March, or by appointment.

A closing night fundraiser party takes place at 5 p.m. Friday, March 31, at the gallery. Tax-deductible entry donation is \$50.

For more information, visit SixBillionSunsProductions.com/event.

Want to Write?

Care about issues affecting our neighborhood? Write for CNews and experience the thrill of bringing relevant info to Concordia readers!

Pick a subject of your choice: events, new businesses, schools, etc.



Interested? The Media Team meets on the last Monday of every month. All meetings are open to the public.

Next up: Monday, March 27 at 6 p.m. See Page 2 to learn how to attend this virtual meeting.

Info: Contact Rob Cullivan at CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org



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Social Column

Upcoming year packed with events

By Javier Puga-Phillips
CNA Social Committee Chair

Get ready for an exciting year filled with community events and initiatives! We are continuing last year's efforts to keep Concordia clean. The neighborhood cleanups are back. This year we have scheduled three cleanups, on March 4, June 3 and Oct 7. We are meeting at Alberta Park each date at 9 a.m. sharp. The committee invites all community members to join in and help keep our neighborhood clean.

Makers Market

On Saturday, March 18, the community room at Kennedy School will host the Makers Market from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is a great opportunity for local artists and the public to connect. The gathering features local residents showcasing and selling their handmade items such as music instruments, wood art, glass art, and more. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to participate.

Coming up

The Concordia Neighborhood Association will also host a range of exciting events, including the annual Spring Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8, at 10 a.m. (location to be determined).

We are coming together as a neighborhood to fill the eggs at 4 p.m. Friday, April 7, in the community room at McMenamins Kennedy School, 5736 NE 33rd Ave. The committee invites all commu-

nity members and local businesses to participate or donate.

Year ahead

For the first time ever, CNA will host an official Pride event in June at Bonne Chance, 2209 NE Alberta St. More details to follow in the upcoming months.

The committee is also bringing back National Night Out, Yard Sale (likely over Labor Day weekend), Halloween and a Holiday Party. We do need volunteers for all of these events.

The new initiative "Partners in Concordia" aims to bring volunteers and community members together to tackle small tasks such as gardening, painting fences and changing bulbs. The committee is collecting names of volunteers and tasks they prefer to do and hopes to match them up with community members in need of help. The date for this initiative is set for some time in the summer.

Sabin meeting

On Feb. 8, the Sabin Community Association invited CNA board members as well as Concordia neighbors to attend one of their meetings at Sabin Elementary School, where Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) representatives addressed a recent fatal crash involving a single vehicle, on Dec. 5, that drove into a utility pole. The automobile was speeding on Prescott at 90 mph at the corner of NE 14th Avenue and Prescott Street, lost control and crashed. The meeting was an opportunity for the community to voice their concerns and thoughts on the issue



Numerous Northeast Portland residents, including Concordia neighbors, attended a traffic safety discussion at Sabin Elementary School in early February. Photo by Javier Puga-Phillips

of traffic safety in the neighborhood.

During the meeting, a large number of neighbors shared their concerns about the use of Prescott as a "speed track" and how drivers, even though it's a two-way street, illegally pass cars. It was brought to our attention that the speed limit on Prescott is 25 mph, but some drivers ignore this, putting themselves and others in danger.

In light of these concerns, PBOT shared that the more letters the community sends the bureau, the faster it can respond to the issue. I would like to invite all Concordia neighbors to write a letter addressing any and all concerns about traffic safety in the neighborhood. These letters can be sent to me at Social@ConcordiaPDX.org or to our Land Use and Transportation Committee at LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org.

I would also like to take a moment to thank Rachel Lee, the chair of Sabin Land Use and Transportation Committee, for the invitation to the meeting and for her

efforts in ensuring that the community's voice is heard.

Let's work together to make Concordia a safer and more peaceful place for all, let's come together and make Concordia a stronger and more vibrant community! If you own a business in Concordia or want to give a shoutout, please tag us @CNAPDX and use the #SocialConcordiaPDX.



Javier Puga-Phillips holds the Southwest 1 position on the Concordia Neighborhood Association (CNA) Board of Directors, manages rentals of the McMenamins

Kennedy School Community Room and chairs the CNA Social Committee. He is a real estate professional locally, and he is a published author and motivational speaker in Latin America and Spain.



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LUTC needs you!

Do you want to be involved with land use and transportation in Concordia? What are your concerns?

Join the CNA Land Use & Transportation Committee and help us address those issues facing our Concordia neighbors.

Rich Burton, LUTC Committee chair, wants to hear from you! Contact Rich at LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org.





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Ballmer Institute

UO picks Harvard psychologist to lead school

By Keith K. Daellenbach
Contributing writer

The University of Oregon has selected Katie (Kate) McLaughlin, Ph.D., as the first executive director of the Ballmer Institute for Children’s Behavioral Health, located on the former Concordia University campus, now known as the UO Northeast Portland Campus.

McLaughlin is currently professor of psychology as well as director of the Stress & Development Lab at Harvard University. A nationally recognized clinical psychologist and scholar, she has researched how environmental experience influences brain and behavioral development in children and adolescents and has written more than 250 publications

McLaughlin is already running the institute while concurrently winding down her responsibilities at Harvard. Formerly a professor at the University of Washington, she said she looks forward to bringing her family to the Pacific Northwest, where she loves the outdoors, hiking and mountains. She is “thrilled to be in the Concordia Neighborhood” and noted she and her family will be moving here this summer.

New approach

McLaughlin assumes the reins of the institute just as the national approach to childhood behavioral health and wellness takes a new turn. The institute will offer a Child Behavioral Health bachelor’s degree, the first of its kind in the nation. McLaughlin said that undergraduate-trained child behavioral health

“We need to think about changing systems, and this is what the Ballmer Institute is all about.”

specialists have shown promising results in the United Kingdom, but Ballmer will be the first of its kind to offer such undergraduate program training in this country.

Talking about her new job, the professor said it’s about widening service. “There is an increasing gap in providing high-quality, equitable and accessible behavioral health care [and the] vision of the Ballmer Institute is to expand access.”

Ballmer will help fill a nation-wide shortage of mental health professionals, she added.

“We need to think about changing [behavioral health care delivery] systems, and this is what the Ballmer Institute is all about,” she said.

In addition to academic coursework, the Ballmer Institute will embed students, under the guidance of up to 15 clinical psychologist faculty members, in the community at various partner schools in the Portland, David Douglas and Parkrose public school districts. UO says this real-world clinical training will consist of more than 700 hours of field-based



Dr. Katie [Kate] McLaughlin brings a wealth of experience to her new position as executive director of The Ballmer Institute. Photo courtesy of UO

practice. McLaughlin further noted the program may expand to include training in pediatric clinical settings.

Application for the first 35 students opened in February, and students begin classes next fall. The institute is expected to eventually enroll up to as many as 200 students yearly.

McLaughlin also plans to hire staff focused on “implementation science,” which uses the study of new strategies that, when applied in the real world, can improve the mental well-being of children.

McLaughlin also noted she expects the program will create a positive impact in the community. One of her priorities is to “establish a community advisory

board to capture ongoing feedback from community partners, including teachers, parents, existing health care workers, even teenagers, to align with community needs and continue improving as the program unfolds.”



Keith Daellenbach is a mechanical engineer and outdoor enthusiast who loves mountain climbing, skiing, biking, canoeing, and beekeeping with wife Amy and son Micah.

Grocery store workers join union

Continued from Page 1

tantly, he’s seeking respect from the management.

For Joe Meyers, a 15-year New Seasons employee, who currently works in produce, respect is top on his list as well.

“Patronizing’ is a word I keep coming back to when I think of how the company treats its workers: like high school kids who need a parent figure instead of full adult humans, critical to their success and contributing members of society,” wrote Meyers in an email.

Meyers said as the company has grown, he’s seen an explosion of middle management positions, while his job gets narrower and more mindless.

“We used to problem solve,” he said. “It’s not just pay, but training, resources and respect are all in short supply. In my view, the company had maybe a very small opportunity in the beginning to ‘create good jobs in the community’ as all businesses like to promote, but they chose money instead and now seem hell-bent on not listening and creating a desperate transient workforce.”

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ConcordiaPDX.org/get-involved/media-team-lead-position
To apply, contact Kieran Lee at: Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org

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TUESDAY, MARCH 21

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TUESDAY, MARCH 21

6pm doors; 7pm show

Advance tickets recommended

Concordia Tree Team

Group seeks volunteers for spring pruning

By Mallory Pratt
Concordia Tree Team

I'm sure you've noticed that it's been a tough winter for our trees with heavy winds and an ice storm. Did you know that good structural pruning can help protect them from catastrophic damage from wind and ice and lengthen their healthy lifespan? Your Concordia Tree Team was on the job this past fall doing that very thing for 56 street trees. And we'll be doing it again this spring, including a special Earth Day event along 42nd Avenue.

What does good pruning look like? The improvement in health can be significant even if the change in appearance is subtle. The photos accompanying this article show a "before" and "after" for a Zelkova where branches that were likely to break or were rubbing against each other were removed to open the canopy for movement and new growth.

To see more examples of what pruning can do, check out the What's New page on the Ainsworth Linear Arboretum website at AinsworthLinearArboretum.org/new-roots.

Spring pruning

Our team is preparing for Spring Street Tree Pruning right now. We'll be knocking on doors in late March and pruning during the month of April. If you live west of 33rd Avenue and north of Alberta Street, you are in our target area for this spring.

If you or your neighbors are interested in this free service and/or joining the team, go to the Ainsworth Linear Arboretum website and click the "Get Involved" button to contact us.

We are also looking for tree enthusiasts to help with our Earth Day 2023 pruning and community event on Saturday, April 22. We are pleased to announce a joint venture with the Cully Tree Team and 42nd Avenue businesses to prune the street



On the left is a Zelkova tree before the Concordia Tree Team pruned it and on the right is the same tree after pruning. Photos by Mallory Pratt

trees along the length of 42nd Avenue, which is our border with the Cully neighborhood.


We'd love help with getting sponsors, contacting businesses and planning the community activities. Please contact the team through the Ainsworth Linear Arboretum website using the Get Involved button and let us know you'd like to help.

If pruning is not your passion, we also work to protect

older trees, plant big trees for the future and create equity of access to trees throughout the neighborhood. Come join us at our monthly meeting, the first Tuesday of the month from 6:30 to 7:30. Check the ALA website for location since it changes each month.

Mallory Pratt is the convener/facilitator for the Concordia Tree Team.

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New Campus Updates

Will the post banner signs get updated?

Yes, the banners on and around campus will soon be updated. The ones on campus will have the UO Portland logo. The ones near campus will also include the Concordia Neighborhood Association mark.

What will happen to the unneeded items that came with the purchase of the campus?

The UO has plans to repurpose things like furniture, office supplies, and equipment. We've hired Pacific Industrial Auctions and Appraisals to help us clear out unneeded inventory and make space for upcoming renovations. Watch their website for details about online auctions. <http://piauctioneer.com/auctions.asp>

SAVE THE DATE: Our next Community Connection event is 4:30-6 p.m., Wednesday, April 12.



Learn more

pdx.uoregon.edu/northeast-pdx-campus

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News from the NET

Keep those storm drains clean

By Micha Wolf
Concordia/Vernon/Woodlawn
Neighborhood Emergency Team

If you are a neighborhood walker like me, you will surely have noticed many clogged storm drains all around. Considering the amount of rain Portland is receiving every winter and spring, it is very important to keep the storm drains free of leaves and debris.

The federal Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act and Endangered Species Act direct the City of Portland to improve stormwater quality and protect watersheds, rivers, streams and drinking water resources. With the exception of storm-drain maintenance, the overall management of the stormwater system is the responsibility of the Portland Environmental Services. Given the city's limited budget and staff and the size of the infrastructure, the Portland Bureau of Transportation relies heavily on citizen involvement to help keep streets safe and storm drains clean and to notify the city if a higher level of maintenance is needed at a particular location.



Micha Wolf has retired from teaching primary school, loves being in nature and believes in building community through engagement.



Portland residents should clean clogged storm drains, such as the one pictured here, prior to rain or snow. Photo by Micha Wolf

How you can help

To lessen street flooding, the city asks residents and property managers to help clean the inlets and storm drains in front of your properties.

Use a rake or pitch fork to clear leaves, limbs, and debris from the storm drain. Do not put your feet and hands into the storm drain because all kinds of debris collect there that could be dangerous. Do not try to remove the grate, only the debris on top of the grate.

The best time to inspect the storm drains in front of your house or business is prior to a rain event and right after a rain, snow or ice storm.

Please do not rake or blow the leaves from your yard into the street. Bag them at the curb in the parking strip and prepare them for curbside pickup by your garbage hauler. The city's leaf removal service is intended solely for leaves that impede stormwater drainage and cause traffic hazards.

For leaves that have fallen into the street, please keep them out of the channel right along the curb, where they will block the path of rainwater. Rake them at least one foot from the curb.

Every year, NET teams have deployed to help neighbors clear the drains if they cannot do so themselves. If you would

Community Events Calendar

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Location: McMenamins Kennedy School, 5736 NE 33rd Ave.

Friday, March 17

Murray Irish Dancers, 5:30–6 pm

The Stomptowners, 7:30–10 pm

Saturday, March 18

Yeates Academy Irish Dancers, 2–2:30 pm

Johnny Franco, 4–5:30 pm

Madeline Hawthorne, 6–7:30 pm

Robin Jackson & The Caravan, 8–10 pm

Free admission. All ages.

Details: mcmenamins.com/kennedy-school

Saturdays 10 am to noon

Mondays 4–6 pm

ST. CHARLES FOOD PANTRY

Location: 5310 NE 42nd Ave.

“Shop” at the food pantry Mondays & Saturdays this month, or request contactless delivery of food boxes.

Details: stcharlespdx.org/food-help.html, 503-235-8431

Saturday, March 18, 25

FOOD PANTRY

Location: 5209 NE 22nd Ave.

Sharon Seventh Day Adventist Church hosts its food pantry the last two Saturdays each month.

Details: sharonsda.net, office@SharonChurch.comcastbiz.net

Church needs shelter volunteers

Ainsworth United Church of Christ, 2941 NE Ainsworth St., invites community members to volunteer at its cold-weather shelter.

The shelter opens whenever the overnight low drops below 30 degrees and is available to regular visitors at the HIV Day Center and others referred by agencies. A background check is conducted on volunteers,

but the shelter can work with people who have legal records, which are not necessarily disqualifying.

Guests and volunteers must wear masks when inside, including while sleeping. The Day Center reports most clients are vaccinated. The shelter asks that volunteers be vaccinated prior to their first shift.

For more information, call the church at 503-284-8767.

Your CNA board wants to hear from you!

Wednesday, March 1, the Concordia Neighborhood Association will hold its monthly Board meeting at 6 p.m., followed by the quarterly General meeting at 7 p.m.

At the General meeting, the board will host an open forum to hear from its Concordia neighbors.



Meetings are held in the McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room. Attend remotely by visiting ConcordiaPDX.org/CNAMeetings.

All are welcome!



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GABRIELA MONTERO

9

STARRY NIGHT
PHAMETASTIC GALA

10

RAMBLIN'
JACK ELLIOTT

11

KEVIN BURKE

13

THE PORTLAND YOUTH
JAZZ ORCHESTRA
WINTER CONCERT

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CHAMBER MUSIC NORTHWEST
presents CURTIS ON TOUR:
A SOLDIER'S TALE

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EXTC

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VANESSA COLLIER

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CANDLELIGHT VIVALDI'S
FOUR SEASONS

18

24th ANNUAL
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CANDLELIGHT A TRIBUTE
TO TAYLOR SWIFT

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Partial Truths - How Fractions
Distort Our Thinking

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CANDLELIGHT A TRIBUTE TO
QUEEN + MORE

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T. C. O'Leary's

Pub to offer St. Patrick's fun

By Rob Cullivan
CNews Editor

Portland's Irish community is gearing up for the wearin' o' the green this month as it prepares to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, Friday, March 17.

T.C. O'Leary's, 2926 NE Alberta St., will be party central in Concordia from Friday, March 10, to Saturday, March 18. A hub of Irish music, dance and literary happenings in town, O'Leary's will feature live music over the eight-day period and kicks off St. Patrick's weekend with a performance by Portland band

St. James Gate from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday, March 16.

Performing everything from traditional, popular and original compositions, St. James's Gate has been lighting up stages with fiery Irish music for many years and has played stages here in the States as well as in Ireland.

On St. Patrick's Day, O'Leary's has scheduled the following lineup. Admission is free until 4 p.m., and then it's \$5.

Irish piping tunes: 1–3 p.m.

Preston Wilde plays the uilleann pipes.

Yeates Academy of Irish Dance: 3:45 p.m.

Oregon's longest-running Irish dance school is led by award-winning instructors and has taught a number of championship dancers.

Whiskey Deaf: 4–6 p.m.

Portland band plays bluegrass, old-time and early-country music.

Kate and The Lads: 6–8 p.m.

As Richie Rosecrans puts it, this band does not perform your grandmother's Irish polkas.

"This is your grandmother's grandmother's polkas," he says with a chuckle, noting Kate and The Lads rootedness in Irish music from a century ago.

"This is high-energy dance music," the guitarist and bouzouki player adds, noting the band performs reels, jigs and slip jigs as well as polkas. "It's there for celebration and fun."

Kate and The Lads regularly perform Monday nights at O'Leary's, with varying lineups, and the St. Patrick's show features Kate Gregory and Erik Killops on fiddles, along with Rosencrans.



Kate and The Lads are the house band at T.C. O'Leary's, which hosts a slew of acts on St. Patrick's Day. Contributed photo.

Michael Sheridan & Friends: 8–10 p.m.

Singer-songwriter Michael Sheridan plays a slew of Irish favorites.

For more information, visit TCOLearys.com or call 503-477-5969.




CNews Editor Robert Emmet Cullivan is named for fallen 19th century Irish hero Robert Emmet. Unlike the man for whom he was named, Cullivan has yet to lead a failed rebellion, save in various news offices.

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A LOVE LETTER TO OUR NEIGHBORS

We love you for the sprinklers that go off on our walks, just when Truman needs a refreshing pick-me-up.

We love you for the beautiful plants and flowers that we admire daily.


We love you for sharing your chickens' (now priceless) eggs.

We love you for providing food pantries to those in need and free libraries for all of us.

We love you for walking your dog and pausing so Truman and I can say hello.

We love you for feeling safe asking your neighbors for help, and we love you for not hesitating to provide it. We love our neighborhood!

XO, Melissa & Truman



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Save the Date!



CNA Annual Spring Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 8
Location: TBD

Volunteers are needed:

- Friday, April 7 to stuff 6,000 plastic eggs with candy
- Saturday, April 8 to hide those eggs

Contact Javier Puga-Phillips at Social@ConcordiaPDX.org



Watch for details in the April CNews

Sponsored by CNA